

## RE: Bypassing form Authentication

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You wrote:

| I'm running a web site and implementing both folder(web.config) and class  
| level authorization. A new requirement came in to allow an external web  
| site  
| to access some secure web pages directly, without going through the logon  
| page.

Response:

So, these are not secure web pages after all. Many times issues or complexities are introduced due to mixing security requirements. Putting non-secure pages into a secure web site, or vice versa is fundamentally introducing inconsistency, and many times that is where issues and complexities start. For best practices, put secure and nonsecure resources in separate physical directory trees and accessed with different logical paths. Configurations and NTFS permissions are not necessarily inherited the same way. Where a page is physically placed (i.e. the file system view) and how a page is logically accessed (the IIS or http view) are determinant factors.

You wrote:

|  
| The users are valid users, and I will build the principle object anyway,  
| but  
| I need to do this before they are being re-directed to the logon page.  
|

Response:

1. web.config controls only ASP.NET resources, and not others like asp, cgi, etc. One way to do it is to make them non-ASP.NET resources and allow anonymous access in IIS configuration, while ASP.NET will be controlled by web.config to deny anonymous access and perform form authentication.
2. web.config inheritance is based on the logical structure, i.e. the url, and not the physical folder structure. So putting resources in a separate url path is another option. This is not always an option however.

You wrote:

| Would removing the folder\file reference from the web.config file help?

Response:

It depends on how the web site is structured. Again the essence is that web.config controls only ASP.NET and only ASP.NET resources, and the inheritance of web.config settings is based on the logical (i.e. url) and not physical path.

Hope this helps.

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Frequently referenced IIS admin recourses:

Microsoft Product Service Packs

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?ID=FH;EN-US;sp&FR=0&SD=GN&LN=EN-US&CT=SD&SE=NONA>

Microsoft Software Update Services

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows2000/windowsupdate/sus/default.asp>

Microsoft.com IIS Portal

<http://www.microsoft.com/iis>

IIS6 Support Center

<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=fh;EN-US;iis60>

IIS6 Resource Kit

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=56fc92ee-a71a-4c73-b628-ade629c89499&DisplayLang=en>

Windows Server 2003 Resources

<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/prodtechnol/windowsserver2003/>